to an agency offering better price at his doorstep. Within such an open and transparent arrangement there is no question of scope for employment or making the farmers bonded labours.

Amount received from the Union Carbide as compensation

†*611. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are still having the balance amount received from the Union Carbide as compensation;

(b) if so, details of such amount;

(c) the purpose for which this amount, if any, have been kept as reserve; and

(d) whether this amount would be made available to the Madhya Pradesh Government for the schemes being run for the welfare of gas victims?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The unspent amount is lying with the Reserve Bank of India in the name of the Welfare Commissioner.

(b) As informed by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, Bhopal, an amount of approximately Rs. 1000.00 crores is lying with the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) This amount is being utilized for the distribution of compensation amount to the original claimants on *pro-rata* basis, in accordance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 19th July, 2004.

(d) No, Sir. In its judgement dated 19th July, 2004, the Supreme Court has directed the Welfare Commissioner to disburse the unspent amount only to the persons whose claims have been settled, on a *pro-rata* basis.

Assistance to Punjab for Fertilizers, Seeds, etc.

*612. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate any policy in consultation with Punjab Government to provide fertilizers, seeds and other agriculture equipments to farmers at reasonable prices; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Unhygienic Premises in SJ Hospital

*613. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cleanliness in the Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi is a far cry forcing the patients to go to private hospitals/nursing homes; and

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to make the Hospital neat and clean and infection free?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that the patients are forced to go to private hospitals/Nursing homes due to unhygienic conditions prevailing in the hospital. In fact that number of patients visiting the Safdarjung Hospital keeps on increasing every year and the average number of daily attendance of the patients during the year 2004 is 6032.

For maintaining hygienic conditions and proper sanitation in the Safdarjung Hospital premises, following steps are already in force:

1. Improving sanitation services in the entire campus by preparing lawns, parks and by demolishing unauthorized and old structures making way for open and breathing space in the hospital.
2. The hospital waste management services were brought to the standards, as per the guidelines of BMW (Management and Handlings) Rules, 1998, in order to make the hospital premises infection free.
3. The wards and intensive care areas have been upgraded. The corridors in all the buildings have been tile finished and the standard for cleanliness in all areas are being improved.
4. The toilets of all the buildings including OPD have been renovated and usual stench in the hospital is no more there. The sewerage system are being inspected at regular intervals and corrective